Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A dimer comprising a first neublastin polypeptide and a second neublastin polypeptide, wherein: (a) at least one of the polypeptides is glycosylated; (b) at least one of the polypeptides is conjugated at its N-terminus to a water-soluble synthetic polymer; and (c) neither of the polypeptides is conjugated to a water-soluble synthetic polymer at a position other than the N-terminus.

2. (Original) The dimer according to claim 1, wherein the first neublastin polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of NBN113 (SEQ ID NO:2), NBN140 (SEQ ID NO:6), NBN116 (SEQ ID NO:7), NBN112 (SEQ ID NO:8), NBN111 (SEQ ID NO:9), NBN110 (SEQ ID NO:10), NBN109 (SEQ ID NO:11), NBN108 (SEQ ID NO:12), NBN107 (SEQ ID NO:13), NBN106 (SEQ ID NO:14), NBN105 (SEQ ID NO:15), NBN104 (SEQ ID NO:16), NBN103 (SEQ ID NO:17), NBN102 (SEQ ID NO:18), NBN101 (SEQ ID NO:19), NBN100 (SEQ ID NO:20) and NBN99 (SEQ ID NO:21).

3. (Original) The dimer according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the first neublastin polypeptide and the second neublastin polypeptide are the same.

4. (Currently Amended) The dimer of claim 1, wherein the water-soluble synthetic polymer is a polyalkylene glycol moiety.

5. (Currently Amended) The dimer of claim 4, wherein the N-terminal amino acid of the first neublastin polypeptide and the N-terminal amino acid of the second neublastin polypeptide each is conjugated to a polyalkylene glycol moiety.

6. (Original) The dimer of claim 3, wherein the amino acid sequence of the first neublastin polypeptide is NBN104 (SEQ ID NO:16).

7. (Currently Amended) The dimer according to claim 5 ~~1~~, wherein the average total molecular weight of the polyalkylene glycol moiety or moieties conjugated to the dimer is 10-50 kDa.

8. (Original) The dimer of claim 7, wherein the average total molecular weight of the polyalkylene glycol moiety or moieties conjugated to the dimer is 15-45 kDa.

9. (Original) The dimer of claim 8, wherein the average total molecular weight of the polyalkylene glycol moiety or moieties conjugated to the dimer is 20-40 kDa.

10. (Currently Amended) The dimer according to claim 4 ~~1~~, wherein the polyalkylene glycol moiety is linear.

11. (Currently Amended) The dimer according to claim 4 ~~toclaim 1~~, wherein the polyalkylene glycol is branched.

12. (Currently Amended) The dimer of claim 4 ~~claim1~~, wherein the polyalkylene glycol moiety is a polyethylene glycol (PEG) moiety.

13. (Original) A composition comprising the dimer of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Original) A method of treating neuropathic pain in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 1.

15. (Original) A method of treating tactile allodynia in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 1.

16. (Original) A method of treating thermal hyperalgesia, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 1.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14~~, 15 or 16~~, wherein the mammal is a human.

18. (Currently Amended) The method claim 14~~, 15 or 16~~, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is from 0.1 μg/kg to 1000 μg/kg.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~methodof~~ claim 18, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is from 1 μg/kg to100 μg/kg.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~methodof~~ claim 19, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is from 1 μg/kg to 30 μg/kg.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is from 3 μg/kg to 10 μg/kg.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~16,~~ 17 ~~or 18~~, wherein the route of administration is intravenous, intramuscular or subcutaneous.

23. (Original) A method of activating the RET receptor in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of the dimer of claim 1.

24. (Original) A method of treating neuropathic pain, tactile allodynia or thermal hyperalgesia in a mammal, comprising co-administering to the mammal an effective amount of the dimer of claim 1 and an analgesic agent.

25. (New) A dimer comprising a first neublastin polypeptide and a second neublastin polypeptide, wherein: (a) at least one of the polypeptides is glycosylated; (b) at least one of the polypeptides is conjugated at its N-terminus to a polyethylene glycol moiety; and (c) neither of the polypeptides is conjugated to a polyethylene glycol moiety at a position other than the N-terminus, and wherein the amino acid sequence of the first neublastin polypeptide and the second neublastin is NBN104 (SEQ ID NO:16).

26. (New) The dimer of claim 25, wherein the N-terminal amino acid of the first neublastin polypeptide and the N-terminal amino acid of the second neublastin polypeptide each is conjugated to a polyethylene glycol moiety.

27. (New) A dimer comprising a first neublastin polypeptide and a second neublastin polypeptide, wherein: (a) at least one of the polypeptides is glycosylated; (b) at least one of the polypeptides is conjugated at its N-terminus to a polyethylene glycol moiety; and (c) neither of the polypeptides is conjugated to a polyethylene glycol moiety at a position other than the N-terminus, and wherein the amino acid sequence of the first neublastin polypeptide and the second neublastin is NBN113 (SEQ ID NO:2).

28. (New) The dimer of claim 27, wherein the N-terminal amino acid of the first neublastin polypeptide and the N-terminal amino acid of the second neublastin polypeptide each is conjugated to a polyethylene glycol moiety.

29. (New) A composition comprising the dimer of claim 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

30. (New) A composition comprising the dimer of claim 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (New) A composition comprising the dimer of claim 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32. (New) A composition comprising the dimer of claim 28 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

33. (New) A method of treating neuropathic pain in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 25.

34. (New) A method of treating neuropathic pain in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 26.

35. (New) A method of treating neuropathic pain in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 27.

36. (New) A method of treating neuropathic pain in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 28.

37. (New) A method of activating the RET receptor in a human, comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the dimer of claim 25.

38. (New) A method of activating the RET receptor in a human, comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the dimer of claim 26.

39. (New) A method of activating the RET receptor in a human, comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the dimer of claim 27.

40. (New) A method of activating the RET receptor in a human, comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the dimer of claim 28.

41. (New) A method of treating a peripheral neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 25.

42. (New) A method of treating a peripheral neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 26.

43. (New) A method of treating a peripheral neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 27.

44. (New) A method of treating a peripheral neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 28.

45. (New) A method of treating painful diabetic neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 25.

46. (New) A method of treating painful diabetic neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 26.

47. (New) A method of treating painful diabetic neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 27.

48. (New) A method of treating painful diabetic neuropathy in a human, comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of the dimer of claim 28.